ABSTRACT

Disclosed is a method of preparing a micro-structured powder for bonded magnets having high coercivity, which is advantageous in terms of low preparation costs by recycling magnet scraps, simplified production, mass minimal environmental contamination by such a recycling process, and the preparation of stable anisotropic powders having high coercivity. Further, a magnet powder prepared by the above method is provided. The current method is characterized in that R-Fe-B type anisotropic sintered magnets or scraps thereof are crushed to prepare 50-500 µm sized magnet powders, which are then mixed with 1-10 wt% of rare earth fluoride (RF3) powders and thermally treated at high temperatures (500-1100°C) in a vacuum or an inert gas, to cause the change of matrix-near surface and grain boundary of the powders. Thus obtained powders include a matrix phase having R₂Fe₁₄B crystal structure, a R-rich grain boundary phase containing rare earth fluoride, and other phases, in which the matrix phase has an average grain size of $1-20~\mu\text{m}$, and the powders have an average size of 50-500 μ m with superior magnetic characteristics of (BH)max \geq 20 MGOe and iHc \geq 5 kOe.